

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 25 May 1948

50X1-HUM

SUBJECT Political Information: Tsingtao Mayor's Position Strengthened After Assassination of Newspaper Editor

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The conflict between LI Hsien-liang, Mayor of Tsingtao, and KO T'an, Vice Mayor and Party Chairman of the Kuomintang, culminated recently, after the return of LI from a trip to Nanking, in the announcement of the removal of KO as Vice Mayor and Party Chairman.
2. During the recent elections of members for the National Assembly, KO T'an supported the candidacy of CHAO Shih-wei, a member of the Tsingtao Municipal Council. Mayor LI, in opposition, enlisted the aid of HOU Sheng-lin, who used his newspaper, Yang Pao, in a political and personal attack on CHAO. As a result of this publicity, CHAO withdrew from the candidacy.
3. HOU Sheng-lin was set upon and killed by CHAO Shih-wei and two helpers. CHAO was arrested in Nanking and is now awaiting trial on charges of the murder of HOU. There is no evidence, however, that KO T'an or his followers were in any way implicated.
4. LI's position as Mayor has been strengthened by this turn in events; nevertheless, he is fearful, and appears nowhere without his body guard.

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Document No. 2

NO CHANGE IN

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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